

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A drying system comprising:
a plenum;
a gas source in fluid communication with the plenum;
a gas flow guide attached to the plenum operable to direct gas flow provided by the gas source, the gas flow having a temperature; and
a support having a surface, at least a portion of the surface being heated, the heated surface having a temperature, the gas flow guide being positioned to direct gas flow at least partially toward the heated surface of the support, the temperature of the gas flow being cooler than the temperature of the heated surface, wherein the heated surface of the support is heated by a heater positioned spaced apart from the support, the heater being operatively associated with the support through a conductive path operable to conduct heat from the heater to the support, the conductive path comprising a heat conductive extension connected to the support and to the heater.
2. (original) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the gas flow guide includes a fin.
3. (original) The system according to Claim 2, the plenum having a surface, wherein the fin is positioned to create an angle relative to the surface of the plenum.
4. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the gas flow guide is positioned to create an angle relative to a plane tangential to the surface of the support.

5. (original) The system according to Claim 4, wherein the angle is approximately 45°.

6. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1, the support including a width dimension, the system further comprising:

a restrictor plate positioned between the gas flow guide and the plenum, the restrictor plate having at least one perforation sized to distribute gas flow over the surface of the support in the width dimension.

7. (original) The system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a restrictor plate positioned between the gas flow guide and the plenum, the restrictor plate having at least one perforation sized to limit gas flow from the gas flow generated by the gas source to the gas flow guide.

8. (original) The system according to Claim 7, wherein the at least one perforation forms a pattern of perforations through the restrictor plate.

9. (original) The system according to Claim 7, further comprising:

a nozzle plate positioned between the restrictor plate and the gas flow guide, the nozzle plate having at least one perforation sized to direct gas flow to the gas flow guide.

10. (original) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the gas source is positioned within the plenum.

11. (original) The system according to Claim 10, wherein the gas flow generator includes a fan.

12. (original) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the gas source is positioned remotely relative to the plenum and is in fluid communication with the plenum.

13. (original) The system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a cover positioned at least partially about the plenum, the cover including a gas inlet and a gas outlet.

14. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1, the heated surface having an origin, wherein the gas flow guide includes a plurality of fins that direct gas toward the heated surface at a location spaced apart from the origin of the heated surface.

15. (original) The system according to Claim 1, portions of the surface of the support defining a direction of media travel, wherein the gas flow guide is positioned to direct gas at least partially along the direction of media travel.

16. (currently amended) A method of drying media comprising:

providing a surface, a portion of the surface defining a media travel path;

heating the portion of the surface defining the media travel path, the heated portion of the surface having a temperature; and

directing a gas flow having a temperature at least partially toward the surface and at least partially along a direction of media travel, the temperature of the gas flow being cooler than the temperature of the heated portion of the surface, wherein heating the portion of the surface defining the media travel path includes conducting heat from a source of heat through a heat conductive extension connected to the source of heat and the portions portion of the surface defining the media travel path.

17. (original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein directing the gas flow at least partially toward the surface includes directing the gas flow to a location of the surface downstream from a location of the surface where heating begins, downstream being relative to the direction of media travel.

18. (original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein the gas flow is at an ambient temperature.

19. (previously presented) A drying system comprising:
a plenum;
a gas source in fluid communication with the plenum;
a gas flow guide attached to the plenum operable to direct gas flow provided by the gas source; and
a support having a surface, at least a portion of the surface being heated, wherein the gas flow guide is positioned to direct gas flow at least partially toward the heated surface of the support, the gas flow guide including a fin.

20. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 19, the plenum having a surface, wherein the fin is positioned to create an angle relative to the surface of the plenum.

21. (previously presented) A drying system comprising:
a plenum;
a gas source in fluid communication with the plenum;
a gas flow guide attached to the plenum operable to direct gas flow provided by the gas source;
a restrictor plate positioned between the gas flow guide and the plenum, the restrictor plate having at least one perforation sized to limit gas flow from the gas flow generated by the gas source to the gas flow guide;
a nozzle plate positioned between the restrictor plate and the gas flow guide, the nozzle plate having at least one perforation sized to direct gas flow to the gas flow guide; and
a support having a surface, at least a portion of the surface being heated, wherein the gas flow guide is positioned to direct gas flow at least partially toward the heated surface of the support.

22. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 21, wherein the gas flow guide includes a fin.

23. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 21, the heated surface having an origin, wherein the gas flow guide includes a plurality of fins that direct gas toward the heated surface at a location spaced apart from the origin of the heated surface.

24. (previously presented) A drying system comprising:
a plenum;
a gas source in fluid communication with the plenum;
a gas flow guide attached to the plenum operable to direct gas flow provided by the gas source; and

a support having a surface, at least a portion of the surface being heated, the heated surface having an origin, wherein the gas flow guide is positioned to direct gas flow at least partially toward the heated surface of the support, the gas flow guide including a plurality of fins that direct gas toward the heated surface at a location spaced apart from the origin of the heated surface.

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) The system according to Claim ~~26~~ 1, the support having a thickness, the extension having a length, wherein a ratio of the length of the extension to the thickness of the media support is greater than 1.

28. (cancelled)